Supporting Information

for

Transition metal-free assembly of 1,3,5-triazines by using ethyl bromodifluoroacetate as C1 source

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1. General Considerations

All chemicals were purchased from Adamas Reagent, energy chemical company, J&K, Scientific Ltd, Bide Pharmatech Ltd and Tansoole. The solvents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Unless stated otherwise, reactions were conducted in an over-dried schlenk tube with volume of 25 ml under N₂ atmosphere at 110°C. Flash column chromatography was performed over silica gel (200-300 mesh). ¹H-NMR and ¹³C-NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 500 spectrometer (500 MHz ¹H, 125 MHz ¹³C) at room temperature. Chemical shifts were reported in ppm on the scale relative to CDCl3 (δ = 7.26 for ¹H-NMR , δ = 77.00 for ¹³C-NMR) as an internal reference. Coupling constants (J) were reported in Hertz (Hz). The following abbreviations are used to indicate signal multiplicity: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, and br = broad. High resolution mass spectra were recorded using a Thermo Fisher Scientific LTQ FT Ultra or Waters Micromass GCT Premier instrument.

2. Experimental Procedures

General procedure for the synthesis of bromodifluoroacetamides (2g, 2h)

RR'NH + BrCF₂CO₂Et $\xrightarrow{\text{La(OTf)}_3, \text{ rt}}$ BrCF₂CONRR' 1.2 equiv **2g**, **2h**

To a round-bottom flask equipped with stir bar was added amine (5 mmol) under argon, then ethyl bromodifluoroacetate (1.2 equiv) was added with lanthanum trifluoromethanesulfonate (5 mol%). The mixture was stirred at the room temperature and monitored by TLC. After the amine was exhausted, the mixture was extracted with AcOEt, and then the extract was washed with brine and dried over MgSO₄. The solvent was removed in vacuo and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the corresponding amide **2**.

General procedure for the amidines for the synthesis of symmetrical 2,4disubstituted-1,3,5-triazines

Amidines 1 (0.4 mmol), Na₂CO₃ (169.6 mg, 4.0 equiv) were sequentially added to a 25 mL schlenk tube with agitated magnetons, followed by addition of BrCF₂CO₂Et (2.25 equiv) was added in acetonitrile (2.5 mL) with a nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was stirred at 110°C for 12 h. The solution was then cooled to r.t. The reaction was monitored by TLC analysis. After the reaction was completed, the resulting mixture was evaporated to dryness and the crude product was purified with flash chromatography (silica gel, ethyl acetate: petroleum ether: = $1:50 \sim 1:100$) to afford the desired symmetrical 2,4-disubstituted-1,3,5-triazines.

General procedure for the two different amidines for the synthesis of unsymmetrical 2,4-disubstituted-1,3,5-triazine

Amidines 1 (0.3 mmol), amidines 1' (0.6 mmol), Na₂CO₃ (169.6 mg, 4.0 equiv) were sequentially added to a 25 mL schlenk tube with agitated magnetons, followed by addition of BrCF₂CO₂Et (2.25 equiv) was added in acetonitrile (2.5 mL) with a nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was stirred at 110°C for 12 h. The solution was then cooled to r.t. The reaction was monitored by TLC analysis. After the reaction was completed, the resulting mixture was evaporated under vacuum. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate: petroleum ether: = $1:50 \sim 1:100$) to afford the desired unsymmetrical 2,4-disubstituted-1,3,5-triazines.

3. Characterization of Products

2,4-diphenyl-1,3,5-triazine (3a)



white solid, 40.1 mg, 86% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.26 (s, 1H), 8.66 – 8.64 (m, 4H), 7.63 – 7.60 (m, 2H), 7.58 – 7.54 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.4, 166.8, 135.6, 132.8, 128.9, 128.8. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₅H₁₂N₃⁺, 234.1026; Found: 234.1021.

2,4-di-p-tolyl-1,3,5-triazine (3b)



white solid, 41.8 mg, 80% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.19 (s, 1H), 8.52 (m, J = 8.2 Hz, 4H), 7.34 (m, J = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 2.46 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.2, 166.6, 143.4, 133.0, 129.5, 128.9, 21.7. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₁₆N₃⁺, 262.1339; Found: 262.1336.

2,4-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3c)



white solid, 44.5 mg, 76% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.10 (s, 1H), 8.78 – 8.31 (m, 4H), 7.14 – 6.77 (m, 4H), 3.89 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.6, 166.3, 163.4, 130.8, 128.2, 114.0, 55.5. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₁₆N₃O₂⁺, 294.1237; Found: 294.1240.

2,4-bis(4-fluorophenyl)-1,3,5-triazine(3d)



white solid, 44.7 mg, 83% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.19 (s, 1H), 8.88 -

8.38 (m, 4H), 7.25 – 7.18 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.3, 166.7, 166.0 (d, *J* = 252.5 Hz), 131.6 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 131.3 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 115.9 (d, *J* = 22.5 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -106.3. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₅H₁₀F₂N₃⁺, 270,0837; Found: 270.0836.

2,4-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3e)



white solid, 35.0 mg, 58% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.23 (s, 1H), 8.92 – 8.24 (m, 4H), 7.87 – 7.33 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.5, 166.8, 139.4, 133.9, 130.2, 129.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₅H₁₀Cl₂N₃⁺, 302.0246; Found: 302.0245.

2,4-bis(4-nitrophenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3f)



white solid, 36.7 mg, 60% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.23 (s, 1H), 8.48 (m, J = 8.4 Hz, 4H), 7.85 – 7.54 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.7, 166.9, 134.3, 132.1, 130.4, 128.1. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₅H₁₀Br₂N₃⁺, 389.9236; Found: 389.9236.

2,4-bis(4-nitrophenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3g)



light yellow solid, 19.4 mg, 30% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.69 – 9.37 (m, 1H), 8.93 – 8.78 (m, 4H), 8.48 – 8.40 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.0, 167.4, 150.8, 140.6, 130.0, 124.0. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+Na]⁺ Calcd for C₁₅H₁₀N₅O₄⁺, 346.0547; Found: 346.0542.

2,4-bis(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3h)



white solid, 41.3 mg, 56% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.35 (s, 1H), 8.76 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 4H), 7.82 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 4H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.5, 167.1, 138.5, 134.4 (q, J = 31.3 Hz), 129.3, 125.8 (q, J = 3.8 Hz), 123.8 (d, J = 271.3 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -63.0. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₁₀F₆N₃⁺,370.0773; Found: 370.0774.

2,4-di-m-tolyl-1,3,5-triazine (3i)



white solid, 40.2 mg, 77% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.21 (s, 1H), 8.44 – 8.41 (m, 4H), 7.45 – 7.38 (m, 4H), 2.47 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.5, 166.6, 138.5, 135.6, 133.6, 129.4, 128.7, 126.2, 21.5. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₁₆N₃⁺, 216.1339; Found: 216.1340.

2,4-bis(3-methoxyphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3j)



white solid, 41.0 mg, 70% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.24 (s, 1H), 8.24 (m, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 8.19 – 8.14 (m, 2H), 7.45 (m, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (m, J = 7.9, 2.4 Hz, 2H), 3.93 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.1, 166.7, 160.0, 136.9, 129.8, 121.5, 119.2, 113.4, 55.5. HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₁₆N₃O₂⁺, 294.1237; Found: 294.1239.

2,4-bis(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3k)



white solid, 47.2 mg, 64% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.41 (s, 1H), 8.37 (m, J = 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.67 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.34 (m, J = 7.8, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.21 (m, 2H).¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.4, 167.1, 136.1, 132.1, 131.5 (q, J = 32.5 Hz), 129.5 (q, J = 2.5 Hz), 129.5, 125.8 (q, J = 3.8 Hz), 123.9 (d, J = 270.0 Hz).¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₁₀F₆N₃⁺,370.0773; Found: 370.0773.

2,4-bis(2-ethoxyphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3l)



light yellow solid, 41.7 mg, 65% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.31 (s, 1H), 8.00 – 7.96 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.44 (m, 2H), 7.09 – 7.03 (m, 4H), 4.17 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 4H), 1.44 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.8, 165.6, 158.1, 132.6, 132.3, 126.4, 120.6, 113.6, 64.7, 14.8. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₉H₂₀N₃O₂⁺, 322.1550; Found: 322.1551.

2,4-bis(2-fluorophenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3m)



white solid, 42.0 mg, 78% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.33 (s, 1H), 8.90 (s, 2H), 8.87 – 8.82 (m, 2H), 7.91 – 7.86 (m, 2H), 7.74 – 7.69 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.4 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz), 166.56, 162.3 (d, *J* = 258.7 Hz), 134.0(d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 132.2, 124.4 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 124.0 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz), 117.3 (d, *J* = 22.5 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -111.2. HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₅H₁₀F₂N₃⁺, 270,0837; Found: 270.0840.

2,4-dicyclopropyl-1,3,5-triazine (3n)



light yellow liquid, 17.1 mg, 53% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.69 (s, 1H), 2.09 – 2.04 (m, 2H), 1.21 – 1.18 (m, 4H), 1.13 – 1.09 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 179.6, 164.7, 17.8, 11.9. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₉H₁₂N₃⁺, 162.1026; Found:162.1028.

2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(p-tolyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3bc)



white solid, 42.4 mg, 51% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.15 (s, 1H), 8.61 – 8.57 (m, 2H), 8.52 – 8.49 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.06 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.1, 170.8, 166.5, 163.5, 143.3, 133.1, 130.8, 129.5, 128.8, 128.2, 114.1, 55.5, 21.7. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₁₆N₃O⁺, 278.1288; Found: 278.1291.

2-(4-bromophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3cf)



white solid, 51.2 mg, 50% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.16 (s, 1H), 8.59 – 8.56 (m, 2H), 8.49 – 8.46 (m, 2H), 7.68 – 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.05 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.0, 170.3, 166.6, 163.7, 134.7, 132.0, 130.9, 130.3, 127.8, 127.7, 114.1, 55.5. HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₆H₁₃BrN₃O⁺, 342,0237; Found: 342.0236.

2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3cg)



white solid, 45.7 mg, 46% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.22 (s, 1H), 8.74 – 8.71 (m, 2H), 8.62 – 8.58 (m, 2H), 7.82 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.06 – 7.03 (m, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.2, 169.9, 166.8, 163.8, 139.1, 134.0 (q, *J* = 31.3 Hz), 131.0, 129.1, 127.7, 125.6 (q, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 123.9 (d, *J* = 271.3 Hz), 114.2, 55.5. ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -62.9. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₇H₁₃F₃N₃O⁺, 332.1005; Found: 332.1008.

2-(3-methoxyphenyl)-4-phenyl-1,3,5-triazine (3aj)



white solid, 35.5 mg, 45% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.25 (s, 1H), 8.65 – 8.62 (m, 2H), 8.28 – 8.23 (m, 1H), 8.20 – 8.16 (m, 1H), 7.63 – 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.57 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.48 – 7.44 (m, 1H), 7.17 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.3, 171.2, 166.7, 160.0, 137.0, 135.5, 132.8, 129.8, 128.9, 128.8, 121.5, 119.2 113.4, 55.5. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₆H₁₄N₃O⁺, 264.1131; Found: 264.1135.

2-cyclopropyl-4-phenyl-1,3,5-triazine (3an)



Light yellow liquid, 17.8 mg, 30% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.50 – 8.47 (m, 2H), 7.58 – 7.54 (m, 1H), 7.51 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 2.27 – 2.21 (m, 1H), 1.35 – 1.32 (m, 2H), 1.22 – 1.18 (m, 2H).¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.7, 170.4, 165.7, 135.5, 132.6, 128.8, 128.7, 18.2, 12.2. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+Na]⁺ Calcd for C₁₂H₁₁NaN₃⁺, 220.0845; Found: 220.0852.

2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-phenyl-1,3,5-triazine (3ad)



white solid, 59.5 mg, 79% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.21 (m, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 8.67 – 8.59 (m, 4H), 7.57 (m, *J* = 8.3, 4.2 Hz, 4H), 7.23 – 7.19 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.3, 170.3, 166.0 (q, *J* = 252.5 Hz), 166.7 (t, *J* = 3.8 Hz), 135.6, 135.4, 132.9, 132.8, 131.7 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 131.6 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 131.3 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 128.8 (dd, *J* = 18.8 Hz), 115.9 (d, *J* = 21.3 Hz). ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -106.2, -106.4. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+K]⁺ Calcd for C₁₅H₁₀FKN₃⁺, 290.0490; Found: 290.0494.

2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3dc)



white solid, 43.8 mg, 52% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.16 (s, 1H), 8.66 – 8.62 (m, 2H), 8.60 – 8.57 (m, 2H), 7.21 (m, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.06 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 3.92 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.9, 170.1, 165.9 (d, J =251.3 Hz), 166.5, 163.6, 131.9 (d, J = 2.5 Hz), 131.2 (d, J = 8.8 Hz), 130.9, 127.9, 115.8 (d, J = 22.5 Hz), 114.1, 55.5. ¹⁹F NMR (470 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -106.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₆H₁₃FN₃O⁺, 282.1037; Found:282.1036.

2-cyclopropyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3dn)



white solid, 25.5 mg, 40% yield, ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.95 (s, 1H), 8.52 – 8.48 (m, 2H), 7.19 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 2.26 – 2.18 (m, 1H), 1.34 – 1.31 (m, 2H), 1.23 – 1.19 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 180.8, 169.4, 165.8 (d, *J* = 251.3 Hz), 165.7, 131.6 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz), 131.1 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 115.8 (d, *J* = 21.3 Hz), 18.2, 12.3. ¹⁹F NMR (47 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -106.8. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+H]⁺ Calcd for C₁₂H₁₁FN₃⁺, 216.0932; Found: 216.0929.

4. Crystal Structure of 3c



S = 1.077

Npar= 200

5. NMR Spectra of Products

2,4-diphenyl-1,3,5-triazine (3a)



2,4-di-p-tolyl-1,3,5-triazine (3b)



2,4-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3c)



2,4-bis(4-fluorophenyl)-1,3,5-triazine(3d)



2,4-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3e)



2,4-bis(4-nitrophenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3f)











2,4-bis(4-nitrophenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3g)









2,4-di-m-tolyl-1,3,5-triazine(3i)















2,4-bis(2-fluorophenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3m)



2,4-dicyclopropyl-1,3,5-triazine (3n)











2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3cg)





2-(3-methoxyphenyl)-4-phenyl-1,3,5-triazine (3aj)



2-cyclopropyl-4-phenyl-1,3,5-triazine (3an)

2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-phenyl-1,3,5-triazine (3ad)



115.28



2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3dc)



2-cyclopropyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,3,5-triazine (3dn)

